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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
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THE FARMERS' INSTITUTES IN THE UNITED STATES, 1909.

BY

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AND

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During the past year farmers' institutes were conducted in all of the States excepting Louisiana and Nevada and in all of the Territories excepting Alaska and Hawaii, where, although an attempt has been made to inaugurate this movement, no regularly organized farmers' institutes were held.

INSTITUTES HELD.

Reports have been received from 49 States and Territories, and in 47 of these institutes were held. Marked progress has been made this year in institute activity in all directions over any previous year; more money has been appropriated for farmers' institute work, more sessions have been held, and the total attendance has been larger than at any time since this means of carrying agricultural information to the actual farmers themselves has been in vogue.

The number of institutes held during 1909 as reported by 47 States and Territories is 5,014, while in 1908 the reports from 45 States and Territories gave the number as 4,643. In 1909 the reports from 43 States and Territories gave the total number of institutes as 4,714, and in 1908 these same States and Territories reported 4,517 institutes, which was a larger number than in any previous year. The year 1909, therefore, shows an increase of 197 over the highest previous record.

In 1908, 43 States and Territories gave the number of one-day institutes held at 2,704, two-day institutes at 1,753, and three-day institutes at 96, while in 1909 these same States and Territories report 2,844 one-day institutes, 1,726 two-day institutes, and 144 three-day institutes. This shows an increase in 1909 of 140 one-day institutes and 48 three-day institutes, and a decrease of 27 two-day institutes. The total number of days of institutes held in 1909 is reported by 47 States and Territories at 7,134 and in 1908 by 45 States and Territories at 6,647. In 43 States and Territories the number of days of institutes held during 1909 is reported at 6,728, and in 1908 these same States and Territories reported 6,498 days of institutes.

SESSIONS.

The number of sessions held during 1909 is reported by 47 States and Territories at 15,535, and in 1908 it was reported by 45 States and Territories at 14,934. In the 43 States and Territories reporting both years the number of sessions held in 1909 is given at 14,732, and in 1908 at 14,640, thus showing an increase of 92 sessions held during 1909 over the past or any previous year. Since the session is regarded as the unit for estimating institute work and progress, the increase of 92 sessions held during 1909 over that of any previous year is indicative of substantial growth and progress.

ATTENDANCE.

The 47 States and Territories reporting give the total attendance in 1909 at 2,240,925. In 1908 the number reported by 45 States and Territories was 2,098,268, an increase in 1909 over the previous year of 142,657. A comparison of the same 43 States and Territories that reported both last year and this year shows a total attendance in 1909 of 2,158,915 and in 1908 of 1,693,043, thus making an increase of 465,872 in the total attendance at farmers' institutes in 1909 over last year or any previous year. An increase is also shown in the average number in attendance at a session. The average number of persons attending a session in 1908 was 115, while in 1909 it was 146, an increase of 31 persons at each of the 14,732 sessions.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR INSTITUTES.

Forty-seven States and Territories reporting gave the appropriations for 1909 from all sources at \$345,666.49, while in 1908, 47 States and Territories reported \$325,569.54, an increase of \$20,096.95 for 1909. The 43 States and Territories reporting in both 1909 and 1908 gave the appropriations for 1909 at \$331,466.49, and for 1908 at \$315,209.76, an increase in 1909 over the previous year of \$16,256.73.

COST OF INSTITUTES.

Forty-three States and Territories in 1909 report the total cost of their institutes at \$316,765.86, and these same States and Territories in 1908 reported the total cost at \$289,593.29, an increase in 1909 of \$27,172.57. According to these same reports the average cost per session increased from \$19.77 in 1908 to \$21.51 in 1909.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AND EXPERIMENT STATION AID.

The number of agricultural college and experiment station people engaged in lecturing at farmers' institutes during 1909 was 20 less than in 1908, according to the reports from the same 43 States and

Territories which gave the number as 404 in 1909 and 424 in 1908. This is not as great a reduction as one would expect when increased demand on the time and energy of these people from their own institutions is considered. The total number of days of institutes attended by these college and station staffs in 1909 was 3,041, while in 1908 it was 3,586, according to the same reports. This likewise indicates a further reduction in the help derived from the agricultural college and experiment station staffs as regards lectures by these people before farmers' institutes, and this reduction is still further emphasized when the increase of one hundred and sixty-nine days of institutes held in 1909 over those held in 1908 is considered. It indicates clearly that the demand upon the staffs of the agricultural colleges and experiment stations for increased duties within these institutions themselves is preventing them from devoting as much time to farmers' institute work as its increased demand warrants, but it is hoped that with the establishment of departments of extension work within the agricultural colleges this condition may be remedied to a certain extent. It is evident, however, that the managers of farmers' institutes must in the future look to other sources than the staffs of the agricultural colleges and experiment stations for the increase in their lecture force. Each year adds to the necessity for a more permanent and independent lecture force—a corps of educated, scientific, experienced, and practical farmers, scientists, and other competent speakers and demonstrators whose entire time shall be devoted to institute work as lecturers, demonstrators, itinerant instructors, inspectors, district managers, or to other duties which legitimately come within the scope of farmers' institute work. This plan would not only relieve the colleges, but it would also render the institutes more independent and ultimately give them entire control of the services of a competent body of farmers' institute workers.

SPECIAL INSTITUTES.

A considerable amount of instruction in various agricultural subjects is given to rural people through meetings conducted primarily by the farmers' institute organization and yet not classified as regular farmers' institutes. Such miscellaneous meetings are in many instances doing as much for the improvement of agricultural conditions and rural life as are the regular farmers' institutes, and they form a prominent feature of the institute work in some States.

An idea of the extent and scope of this work may be obtained by the following summary of the reports for the year 1909:

Four States held special-subject institutes; two of them did not give the number, but the other two report a combined number of 36 such meetings. The total attendance in the four States upon these

special-subject institutes was 17,268. Independent institutes were held in 10 States, the total number of meetings being 196 with an attendance of 381,412. Thirteen States report 156 round-up institutes with 39,199 in attendance. Railroad specials were run in 15 States; in 8 of these 594 stops were made, and in the other 7 the number of stops was not reported, but the total attendance as given for the 15 States was 167,387. While in several States women's institutes were held in connection with the regular institutes for men, in 4 States separate and independent women's institutes were conducted with a total of 145 sessions. In 25 sessions the attendance was 4,300, while no report was given of the number in attendance at the other 120 sessions. These separate women's institutes offer a fertile field for future development in the United States where they can scarcely be said to have begun, and yet in Ontario they have already overshadowed the regular men's institutes. While it is known that some 16 States have been conducting boys' and girls' meetings of various kinds, although not usually classed as institutes, nevertheless only one State reported having held regular boys' and girls' institutes during 1909, and the attendance was not given. Here again is another field for fruitful work lying within the scope of the farmers' institutes, and yet one that has not been developed to any considerable extent, although its importance warrants attention. Three States held 8 normal institutes with an attendance of 1,000 in 2 of the States, the other one not reporting the attendance. One farmers' picnic was held in each of 2 States with a total attendance of 2,350. Demonstration meetings were reported from only 1 State which held 2 with an aggregate attendance of 400. Farmers' institute schools were held in 2 States, one holding 3 with 530 in attendance, and the other holding 12 schools but not reporting the number in attendance. One State held an annual convention consisting of 5 sessions and a total attendance of 2,500. One State held movable schools at 13 places lasting six days at which there were 1,415 in attendance.

The total attendance at all of the above 12 forms of special institute activity was 617,954, which added to 2,240,925, the attendance at the regular institutes reported, makes a grand total of 2,858,879 in attendance at all forms of farmers' institutes during 1909. In addition no record has been given of the attendance upon the following forms of institutes: Women's institutes, 117 sessions; boys' and girls' institutes in one State with 14 meetings; and 12 farmers' institute schools. And to all this should also be added the attendance at the regular farmers' institutes in two of the three organizations holding farmers' institutes in Connecticut for which no reports have been received.

EVIDENCES OF PROGRESS.

In Arizona the institute force lectured at the local schools to the children and others, and also gave instruction in agricultural subjects to regular classes for as long a time as possible, thus helping to pave the way for the introduction of agriculture in the public schools.

California last year introduced demonstration train work, covering 2,608 miles during the sixty-four days it was in use. The trains stopped at 197 places, spending from one to five hours at each, and the total attendance is reported to have been 37,270. Three coaches were used exclusively for exhibits illustrating cereal production, soils of the State and fertilizers for the same, creamery and dairy work, economic plants especially adapted to the region such as the eucalyptus, various plant diseases, insect pests, and diseases of animals. The farmers' institute superintendent reports:

We consider that this train service was of great value from an educational point of view. Through this instrumentality we were able to bring directly to the men most interested tangible illustrations of the results obtained through careful and scientific farming. The exhibits carried in the cars were entirely either the product of the university farm and various substations or materials obtained in our experimental work upon different farms through the State. Its educational value can not be overestimated.

In Indiana the farmers' institute is working in close cooperation with the women's auxiliaries through the State with a view to the betterment of the conditions of life of rural women and the elevation of the country home. While very few separate women's institutes and comparatively few separate women's sessions are held, nevertheless the work is assuming good proportions through the women's auxiliaries holding joint sessions with the regular farmers' institutes. Women's auxiliaries are organized in 41 of the 92 counties in the State, and last year 48 women's sessions were held in connection with farmers' institutes in 27 counties, and all of these sessions were under the immediate charge of the women's auxiliaries. Within the past five years 87 of the 92 counties of the State have thus been visited at least once by a trained instructor in domestic science covering the subject relative to foods and the home. Many of these women's auxiliaries are thus doing a vast amount of good among rural women by interesting them in labor-saving devices, conveniences, and better sanitary conditions, as well as in better methods of preparing and preserving foods, caring for the sick, and beautifying the home. They have in some cases offered prizes for culinary exhibits at the farmers' institute, and have in this way aroused the interest of the girls.

Maryland has conducted institute schools and short courses of six lectures each in various parts of the State, using an especially con-

structed and equipped car owned privately by the institute. This is the first instance where a car has been planned, built, and owned by an institute for the sole purpose of giving itinerant instruction and demonstrations. It is in reality a small but completely equipped school capable of being taken to the people, and in which the instructors live, eat, and sleep, but from which they may go within driving distances for the purpose of holding meetings or giving lectures whenever advisable. Many cars, and even trains have been used temporarily in various States for institute work, but they have been owned and controlled by the railroads and were not especially constructed for this purpose, ordinary coaches being temporarily fitted up with the necessary illustrative and demonstrative material.

Michigan held 40 women's institutes last year, and the superintendent reports: "The attendance and interest often were better than at the general session." They are also making a special effort to arouse the interest of the young people.

In Minnesota the boys' and girls' industrial contests, which have just finished their second year's work, were so successful that the superintendent of institutes for the State reports: "We have done no work that we feel will result in more good to the agriculture of this State than will this work done with the boys and girls." Excellent results are also reported from the organization of district or township clubs, most of which become active and productive of much good to the members.

The Mississippi farmers' institute gets in touch with the county high schools as fast as they are established, and through cooperation conducts short courses in agriculture.

IMPROVED METHODS.

In Arkansas the farmers' institute work has been placed entirely in the hands of the agricultural college, which has established a department of farmers' institutes with a superintendent in charge.

California has developed the special or single-purpose institute idea, an entire meeting being devoted to the discussion of a single topic in all its phases and from all points of view, thus approaching the plan of some of the movable schools which are devoted to a single subject, such as dairying, poultry raising, and the like, but being from necessity more intensive since the duration of the institute is not as long as that of the movable school. In reporting upon this work the superintendent says: "We find that the attendance and interest at these meetings is as great or greater than when the institutes are very general in their character." These special-purpose institutes should prove of great value in those States where the regular general institutes have been in progress for some time, and where many of

the farmers feel that they have graduated, so to speak, from the necessarily elementary character of the instruction given in them. These special-purpose institutes can, by devoting the entire meeting to a single subject, go deeper into the matter and present the whys and wherefores and the scientific principles underlying them which are of vast interest to the farmer, but which can not be gone into in the short time devoted to a single subject in the regular general institutes. They give an insight into the theories and a better understanding and appreciation of the work under discussion, and thus arouse an enthusiasm and love for agricultural work which helps to elevate this vocation to that of a profession and an art, and to build up a higher plane of rural life. The regular general institutes should not be relinquished, for they will always have their field of usefulness, but the special or single-purpose institutes should be developed and extended in those States where institute work has been in active and extensive progress for a number of years, and especially in those locations where there is a pronounced tendency toward specialization of production.

Colorado has developed its short-course institute work to the extent of producing what might be termed movable schools. The success attending this work can be judged from the report of the superintendent of farmers' institutes, who says: "The most valuable and the best appreciated work that we have done is in holding six-day farmers' short courses and five-day housekeepers' short courses in various parts of the State."

The Georgia farmers' institute held last year teachers' institutes in cooperation with the county school commissioners. The director of farmers' institutes says of this work:

The teachers' institute movement has been an unqualified success and promises to grow rapidly in the future with benign results to both adults and the boys and girls. We are more than gratified at the reception given our lecturers, and have been unable to meet the demand made upon us for assistance. We hope to stress this work more than ever another year, as it seems to us to promise as large dividends as any feature of the institute work we have had experience with. We have made a start on itinerant schools in connection with our institute service, which promises well.

Indiana holds each year in October, just before the opening of the institute season, a normal institute and also a conference of institute workers. All the farmers' institute speakers assigned for work that year are required to attend both these meetings. The county chairmen are expected to attend in person or to send substitutes to the conference, and the presidents of women's auxiliaries are invited to the conference.

In Minnesota one twelve and one eight weeks agricultural lecture course was held at the high school in each of two towns. The lectures and discussions lasting for two hours were given Monday afternoons,

at which time the school was dismissed for the purpose, and the boys and from 30 to 50 farmers assembled in one room, and the girls and women in another room for instruction in home economics. The lectures and discussions lasted two hours. Each farmer paid a small fee to defray traveling expenses of lecturers. These two courses proved to be very successful.

West Virginia: An approach to the county itinerant instructor found in several foreign countries, and which for many years has proven of such value to the agricultural interests, among the small holders especially, has been inaugurated in West Virginia, where a special field man was last season employed by the year whose duty it was to go over the State among the farmers and hold special institute meetings wherever and whenever he could get a few of them together. This method of reaching certain farmers should prove of value in the more thickly settled regions, especially where small farms are the rule.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE EXTENSION WORK.

The establishment of colleges of agriculture and more especially the creation later of experiment stations in connection with them stimulated the demand for the acquisition of new, accurate, and specific information regarding all classes of agricultural subjects and operations based on a scientific study of the principles underlying the various sciences bearing on agriculture. This search after new truth was not only productive of much good to agriculture in all its phases, but also many new sciences such as mycology, entomology, vegetable pathology and the like were largely developed out of the divisions of older ones through their immediate application to agriculture. Every science and art having directly or indirectly an economic bearing on agriculture received an impulse and a stimulus, accurate scientific experiments were carried on in many lines, great and rapid strides were made in all directions, exceeding the most sanguine expectations. The great demand was for "research"—the acquisition of more truth and information regarding all agricultural subjects.

But the time has now arrived when it is apparent that the vast store of agricultural information thus accumulated and rapidly being added to is not fully reaching the people for whom it is intended—the actual farmers. The colleges of agriculture, through the students who enter their doors, are imparting this information to but a very small percentage of the agricultural people. The vast army of actual farmers for whom this information is intended can not attend college at all—not even for a few weeks short course in the winter.

The publishing and distributing of circulars, bulletins, reports, and the like, dealing with agricultural subjects and giving the latest

results of research helps greatly in disseminating this information, but it does not reach the larger percentage of those actually engaged in agriculture. As a rule, it helps only those educated, well-informed, and progressive farmers and does not reach the ones most needing it. In order therefore to carry the vast store of accumulated agricultural information to the majority of farmers it is necessary to resort to some form of educational extension work.

The actual farmers can not go to the colleges of agriculture, but the colleges of agriculture must be taken to the farmers. When this is accomplished the result will be a complete agricultural education, but one which could not have been possible without research first. Agriculture will then become a profession.

Agricultural education extension work has been carried on for a number of years in a small way, usually independent of the colleges of agriculture or at most cooperating with them, yet a sufficient amount of this work has been done to pave the way and to demonstrate the methods to be pursued in a complete agricultural education extension system. The Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations at its meeting held in Portland, Oreg., August 18 to 20, 1909, changed its constitution and created a section on agricultural education extension work so that the association now consists of three sections—a section on colleges, a section on experiment stations, and a section on agricultural education extension. Thus the work under discussion has been officially recognized as on a par with the other two forces at work for the agricultural interests of the United States.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF FARMERS' INSTITUTE WORKERS.

The Fourteenth Annual Convention of the American Association of Farmers' Institute Workers, held in Portland, Oreg., August 16 and 17, 1909, was attended by 99 delegates from the United States and 4 from the Canadian Provinces.

The usual standing committees made their reports, showing the condition and progress of the several branches of the work, and made suggestions and recommendations for their betterment. The papers read and discussed dealt with the general policy of the institute movement, the character, scope, and status of its various ramifications and relations, the progress made, and the methods and means used in the several States, Territories, and Provinces for accomplishing the desired results. Methods of work for the improvement, development, and expansion of the institute movement were ably presented.

Some of the points brought out were: That while the institutes should continue to give general elementary instruction, they should also develop to an increasing extent the movable school idea of giving more definite, specific, and extended instruction along certain lines; that the woman's institute should receive vastly more attention; that the boys' and girls' institutes or sessions should be started in all the more thickly populated States if only in the form of competitions; that local people should be more freely consulted and should bear a share in the expense; and that demonstration work should be encouraged.

Reports from the Canadian Provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Quebec, and Saskatchewan were presented showing that they held 7,154 sessions of institutes last year with an attendance of 300,888.

INSTITUTES FOR WOMEN.

Institute directors are coming to appreciate the fact that if institutes for men have been valuable through the dissemination among them of information adapted to their special needs there is no reason why they should not be equally successful if their efforts were directed particularly to the improvement of women's life and work. According to the census there were in all 37,244,145 women and girls in this country in 1900. About 35 per cent of these, or over 13,000,000, live in rural districts.

As yet no comprehensive system has been put in operation by which the State shall be responsible for supplying educational facilities specially designed for reaching country women at their homes. While the farmers' institute has done something in this respect, yet until quite recently its efforts have been chiefly in the direction of assisting men, leaving the women to depend upon themselves, or at most to gather what they can from the teaching which the men receive. It manifestly is not meeting country needs when the education furnished is adapted to the needs of the male population only, for that assumes that the problems of country living all lie outside of the walls of the house in which the family dwells. Instruction helpful and adapted to the needs of country women should be provided as well, in order that their influence, whether exerted in school or church, the social circle, or in domestic life, shall be most beneficial to the family and the State.

It is certainly worth while to make an effort to reach country women with helpful information, and a proper proportion of the money appropriated for institute purposes by the State should be devoted to this purpose. This Department has recently published a

circular^a upon this subject in which there are outlined some methods that might be employed in organizing women's institutes and in providing for their support.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STATE DIRECTORS.

As the institute work develops the annual reports of the state directors become more important. When the work began there was but a single form of institute activity, consequently a simple statement of the number of meetings held, the attendance, and the speakers present was all that seemed to be required. Later poultry, dairy, fruit, market gardening, and similar forms of special institutes were held; the women's institute has been introduced; boys' and girls' contests, the movable school, the demonstration plat, the railroad special, and other features have been added until there are now in use numerous branches of institute activity each rapidly expanding to include a larger field and many more persons within its influence.

As the work progresses the importance of having exact information respecting it is correspondingly increased. Each state director in order that he may intelligently direct its operations is interested first of all in securing accurate data respecting the progress of the work in his own State, and second he is interested in knowing what is being done by institute directors in other States that he may profit by their experience. These data in order to be serviceable must be accurate. To secure such information and to get it promptly, each director is under the necessity of thoroughly organizing his work and of preparing and issuing blanks to be filled in with the proper data. This requires that he shall have one or more capable persons present at each institute meeting to obtain the information and forward it to the central office.

Most of the institute directors appreciate the importance of full and accurate information and have organizations of more or less efficiency for securing it. A few, however, are still neglectful in this respect, and consequently are in comparative ignorance of the details of their work, so that when called upon for information respecting it they are compelled to resort to estimates with but little that is reliable upon which to base their judgment.

An inspection also of the annual reports published in the several States shows that quite a number are chiefly made up of papers by institute lecturers and lists of questions and answers, and of the names and subjects of discussion. In a few instances only a paragraph or two in relation to the institute work is published, and in others the report consists of a bare recital of statistical facts, with

^a U. S. Dept. Agr., Office Expt. Stas. Circ. 85.

no discussion of the work or statement of projects for its development. While these are all valuable in their place, their value would be greatly increased if the items referred to were accompanied by a thoughtful discussion of their principal features by the director, followed by a general summary of the progress of the institute work as a whole.

The state director, if interested in his work, is constantly studying to improve his methods. A complete statement, therefore, each year of his views as they are enlarged or modified by his study and experience, accompanied with the reasons for his present attitude, would often be of great service to directors in charge of institutes in other States, as well as to lecturers and local managers generally throughout the country.

MONTHLY MEETINGS.

A feature of the institute work most open to criticism is the short period that is given to instruction in a locality in any single year. One or two days is the usual allotment, and in this period a topic may be presented by only a single speaker, to be frequently passed without further discussion. It is manifest that by this method the institute will be many years in educating the farmers in a community in the principles of agricultural science and practice. Under the present method of institute management the individual in a State is apt to be lost sight of in the general mass or volume of work accomplished. Institute directors and lecturers are liable to be misled into thinking that they are doing a great deal for the individual man when they are busy for several months teaching in institute meetings. The work in the aggregate is very considerable, and is of good quality, but it ordinarily touches a single individual for only a day or two at most and comparatively few are reached at all.

The institute lecturer after three or five months' campaign may profitably inquire what he has done in this time in educating any single individual. The state director also at the close of the institute season might inquire to what extent any one individual has been benefited by the expenditure of ten, twenty, or thirty thousand dollars appropriated by the State. Instruction has been furnished for him for two days, possibly for only one. How long will it take by this method to reach, even with a day's instruction, all of the agricultural people of the State? These queries will necessarily develop the fact that the institute can never as at present organized accomplish that which manifestly is its chief purpose, namely, reaching every individual farmer with information sufficient to render him proficient in his business. This requires that the individual must be instructed through a longer period each year than the institute provides, and

that the instruction shall be so directly related to his occupation as to be of positive aid in increasing his productive power.

An experiment in this direction has been under way in Kansas under the direction of the superintendent of institutes of that State which appears, partially at least, to have solved the problem of more and better instruction every year. The plan consists in holding each month in the year and upon the same day of the month one institute in each county, with the same topic for discussion, the places to be selected by the local committee in the county. At the beginning of the year a list of 12 topics, one for each month, is forwarded by the state director to the local managers to be discussed the same day in every county throughout the State.

If the time were fixed for the fourth Friday in each month, and the month were January, and the topic the rearing of poultry, this subject would be discussed all over the State on the fourth Friday of that month. Similar topics suited to the agricultural operations of the season would be assigned for every other month, and thus the institute would be active in aid of agriculture in every county in the State during the entire year. By publishing the list of topics in advance full opportunity would be given to prepare for the discussion of the subjects to be taken up each month.

This does not supplant the present form of institute, but supplements it and extends its influence by taking advantage of the impulse which the regular institutes with their corps of state speakers furnish to keep the others active through the season.

In making up a list of subjects state directors should consult the county managers, and suitable topics be agreed upon for the succeeding year. The monthly institutes would be managed and carried on by local people, and if found advantageous and sufficiently popular could be held more frequently than once a month.

By this means important subjects may be brought to the attention of all of the farmers of a State upon a given date, the subject would be thoroughly discussed both in the institutes and in the homes of the people, and the enthusiasm occasioned by its universal discussion would tend to stimulate many to put the recommendations into practice.

This plan has many advantages. It will organize institute work throughout the State, and extend its benefits to small outlying localities where the regular meetings are rarely held. It will develop local men and women who without it have little opportunity to serve their neighbors by relating their experience obtained after many years of successful farming. It will encourage and stimulate the reading habit among the members of the institute, and enable the national and state departments of agriculture and the experiment stations to send bulletins where they will be of direct benefit in increasing production and in improving rural life.

WORK OF THE OFFICE.

The work of the office of the institute specialist during the year has been chiefly in the direction of endeavoring through correspondence and personal visitation to secure the introduction of the methods for institute improvement and of other forms of extension work that have been recommended in previous years. In pursuance of this effort, visits were made to institute officials in the following States and Territories: Alabama, Arizona, California, Georgia, Idaho, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Washington.

An exhibit composed of statistical charts giving information respecting the farmers' institute work of the United States was prepared for the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition. The office has edited and published the annual report of the American Association of Farmers' Institute Workers; has revised the list of Farmers' Institute Directors and Lecturers; and has collected and published data showing the condition of the farmers' institute work in the several States and Territories for the annual report of the Office of Experiment Stations. A circular on Farmers' Institutes for Women has also been published; the manuscript copy and photographs of an illustrated lecture upon wheat culture have been sent in for publication, and other lectures of similar character are in preparation.

Statistics and other informational data have been gathered for the use of the standing committee of the Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations on extension work.

STATE REPORTS.

Numerous items of interest in the reports of the state directors are incapable of tabulation or are peculiar to a particular State, and at the same time are important to a complete record and understanding of the progress of the institute work as it develops each year. In order that the great body of institute workers may be familiar with this progress, the principal points are incorporated in the following accounts under the respective names of the States and Territories.

ALABAMA.

Institute director.—C. A. Cary, professor of veterinary science, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn.

The State did not make a direct appropriation for institute work, but the Alabama Polytechnic Institute appropriated \$600 for the work, besides giving the time of the director and twelve members of the college and experiment station staff, which it is reported would add \$800 to the amount of money appropriated. "Get ready for the coming of the boll weevil" was one of the subjects discussed at every

meeting. The director arranges for the places, dates, and programmes of the institutes. There were held during the year 42 sessions of institutes, with 4,240 in attendance.

ALASKA.

Institute director.—C. C. Georgeson, special agent in charge of agricultural experiment station, Sitka.

No report was received from the agent in charge, but it has been learned from other sources that one institute was held with satisfactory results.

ARIZONA.

Institute director.—R. W. Clothier, professor of agriculture, College of Agriculture, Tucson.

During the year 34 sessions of institutes were held, at which 1,862 were in attendance. The State appropriated \$123.95 for the work, and the college and experiment station furnished the speakers, four in number. The Mormon Church took charge of the institutes in the Gila Valley, where most of them were held, and the speakers lectured at the schools to the children and others who came in. The State has recently made a more liberal appropriation for institutes, so that better and more work will be accomplished next year, and the short-course feature again resumed. The superintendent consults with local authorities regarding the dates and programmes for the meetings.

ARKANSAS.

Institute director.—Geo. A. Cole, superintendent of farmers' institutes, College of Agriculture, Fayetteville.

The State has recently placed the farmers' institute work in the hands of the college of agriculture, which has organized a department for this purpose and appointed a superintendent.

The number of sessions of regular institutes held the past year was 150 and the total attendance 2,101. In addition there were 3 institutes held at fairs at which the total attendance of 42,060 is reported. The State appropriated \$2,135.60 for institutes, and the college and experiment station contributed the time of the director and 12 lecturers, which is estimated to have been worth \$2,500 additional. The director arranges the programmes, dates, and location of the institutes.

CALIFORNIA.

Institute director.—W. T. Clarke, professor of horticulture, College of Agriculture, Berkeley.

There were 250 sessions of institutes held during the year, with an attendance of 28,294, at a cost of \$6,000 to the State and \$1,000 to

the college. An appropriation of \$10,000 per annum for the next two years will enable the institutes to be held in some of the counties of the State not yet receiving such attention. Ten members of the agricultural college and experiment station staff attended in all one hundred and eight days of institutes. Eight sessions of special institutes were held, with a total attendance of 2,928. A fully equipped demonstration train was run a total of sixty-four days, covering 2,608 miles and making 197 stops, with an aggregate attendance of 37,270. Institutes were held throughout the entire year in order to accommodate those living in regions which differ from one another in regard to the time of the leisure and busy seasons, due to local climatic conditions.

COLORADO.

Institute director.—H. M. Cottrell, superintendent of farmers' institutes and college extension work, College of Agriculture, Fort Collins.

The superintendent of institutes fixes the dates and places of the meetings and arranges the programme. During the year 130 regular sessions were held and the attendance was 22,560. In addition, a potato special train was run, with an attendance of 1,925. The expense of the institutes amounted to \$9,242.42, of which \$5,000 was state appropriation and \$4,242.42 fees derived from short courses. The agricultural college and experiment station furnished 22 lecturers. Attention has already been called to the success attending the six-day farmers' short courses and the five-day housekeepers' short courses which were conducted last season.

CONNECTICUT.

Institute director.—J. G. Schwink, jr., secretary Dairymen's Association, Meriden.

A new feature of the work this year was the offer of \$100 in prizes to those starting to keep individual milk records of their herds for one year.

During the past year the state dairymen's association conducted 53 sessions of farmers' institutes, with an attendance of 4,600, at a cost of \$631.97, nearly all of which was appropriated by the State, the remainder coming from membership fees and other sources. Besides the above the association gave \$594 in premiums at the annual convention for butter, cheese, milk, and cream. In addition there were 2,500 in attendance at the annual convention of 5 sessions. Eight members of the agricultural college and experiment station lectured at the meetings and institutes. The secretary of the association arranges the programmes and fixes the dates and places of the meetings.

DELAWARE.

Institute director.—Wesley Webb, secretary state board of agriculture, Dover.

Agricultural education was a subject discussed at all the meetings during the past season, and lectures on the home were given at most of the meetings. The grange, as well as the experiment station, is actively cooperating in the institute movement, and as a result the interest in the work is reported as becoming more intense and deepening very rapidly.

Seventy sessions of institutes were held during the past year, with a total attendance of 9,210 and at a cost of \$900, all of which was appropriated by the State, but \$300 of which was accumulated money. The above amount, however, does not include the salary and expenses of the director. Four members of the agricultural experiment station staff devoted twenty-three days' service to the institute work. A farmers' day was held at the agricultural college on June 14. The county institutes are consulted in regard to the programmes, dates, and places of the meetings.

FLORIDA.

Institute director.—P. H. Rolfs, director of the experiment station, Gainesville.

During the past year there were held 56 sessions of institutes with a total attendance of 5,576. The State appropriated \$2,500 for this work, but the cost of the institutes held is reported at \$2,000. An appropriation of \$7,500 has been made by the State for farmers' institute work for 1910. The college of agriculture furnished 1 speaker and the experiment station 6 speakers, while 10 state lecturers were employed, and 23 local speakers addressed the meetings.

GEORGIA.

Institute director.—A. M. Soule, president of the agricultural college, Athens.

Agricultural education was a topic discussed in all the institutes. A new feature of the work in Georgia was the holding of joint farmers' institutes and teachers' institutes in cooperation with the county school commissioners.

Fifty-six sessions of regular institutes were held the past year with an attendance of 4,480. There were also held 16 independent institutes with 2,400 in attendance, 15 sessions of round-up institutes at which 600 were reported, and 60 teachers' institutes and 44 miscellaneous meetings, with a total attendance of 9,850. All this is reported to have added greatly to the general interest in agricultural education in the rural schools. The State appropriated \$2,500 for institutes, but the work cost \$7,000, the college and station contributing the difference in time and service of lecturers and the director. The local authorities are consulted regarding the pro-

grammes, dates, and places of the meetings. There are state senatorial organizations with officers in each county. Ten members of the agricultural college and two of the experiment station staff lectured at these institutes.

HAWAII.

Institute director.—William Weinrich, jr., secretary and treasurer farmers' institutes, Honolulu.

No report was received.

IDAHO.

Institute director.—E. E. Elliott, acting dean of the college and acting director of the agricultural experiment station, Moscow.

The number of sessions of institutes held the past year was 90 and the total attendance was 8,560. A railroad special also made 30 points at which institutes were held, with 5,590 in attendance. The subject of dairying was discussed at all the meetings. The State made an appropriation of \$1,000 for the institute work last year, all of which was used for paying traveling expenses, the other expenses being met out of the general maintenance fund of the college of agriculture, which, together with the experiment station, furnished 7 lecturers for the meetings.

ILLINOIS.

Institute director.—F. H. Hall, superintendent of farmers' institutes, Aurora.

The county farmers' institutes in Illinois are semi-independent organizations, but are in close touch with the state organization. The law requires each county institute organization to hold at least one meeting of two days' duration each year in order to receive the annual state appropriation of \$75, which is audited and in charge of the state organization. The state organization is now going to put a special man in the field whose duty it will be to assist the county farmers' institute officers in every way.

Farmers' institutes were held last year in every county in the State except one. There were in all 659 sessions and the attendance was 82,855. Nine sessions of round-up institutes drew an attendance of approximately 5,000. The State appropriated \$15,000 for institute work. Of this amount \$8,500 was used for the expenses of the state institute and \$75, or so much thereof as necessary, was given to each county. The superintendent and the county officers in conference make all arrangements regarding the institutes.

INDIANA.

Institute director.—W. C. Latta, professor of agriculture, College of Agriculture, Lafayette.

A normal institute and a conference of institute workers at which all assigned speakers are required to attend is held before the opening

of the institute season, and county chairmen are expected to attend the conference, or at least to send a delegate.

There were held last year 1,162 sessions of farmers' institutes, and the total attendance was 215,211. The approximate cost was \$20,000, of which \$10,000 was direct state appropriation, and the remainder made up from private donations and membership dues from the county organizations, amounting to \$6,800, and that received from the county treasurer, amounting to \$3,200. Each county contributes \$100 for institutes, provided an equal amount is raised from membership dues. The college of agriculture provided six and the experiment station five lecturers for the institutes.

IOWA.

Institute director.—J. C. Simpson, secretary state board of agriculture, Des Moines.

The extension department of the college of agriculture cooperates with the state board of agriculture and furnishes lecturers.

Four hundred and fifteen sessions of institutes were held during the year, with 103,750 as the total attendance. The total cost of these meetings was \$10,050.58. The State appropriated \$6,030.51, and the donations and membership fees amounted to \$4,020.07 more.

KANSAS.

Institute director.—J. H. Miller, superintendent of farmers' institutes and agricultural extension, college of agriculture, Manhattan.

The farmers' institutes are entirely in the hands of a department of the college of agriculture, the superintendent of which arranges the programmes and fixes all dates and places of meetings. While the Experiment Station furnished 16 lecturers last year, more than 1,000 local speakers were also used. There were 576 sessions of regular institutes held with an attendance of 37,191, besides 30 summer meetings and a wheat train which ran six days, making 72 stops, with an additional 6,768 in attendance. The total cost of the institutes was \$8,200, the State making a special appropriation of \$6,000.

County institute organizations are now found in 103 of the 105 counties in the State. In the eastern portion of the State the subject of roads was discussed at all meetings, and in the western portion of the State forestry and tree planting were substituted. The department now has charge also of the demonstration work on county and private farms, including road making, and of the demonstration classes in stock and corn judging, cooking, spraying, and dairying.

KENTUCKY.

Institute director.—M. C. Rankin, commissioner of agriculture, Frankfort.

Ten thousand six hundred and seven dollars and forty-four cents was expended on institute work last season. This made it possible to

hold 464 sessions at which 21,538 were in attendance. The college of agriculture and the experiment station furnished five lecturers, and subjects in veterinary science and in domestic science were introduced. State fairs and organization of farmers were discussed at all the meetings.

LOUISIANA.

Institute director.—Charles Schuler, commissioner of agriculture, Baton Rouge.

No farmers' institutes were held by the state department, but the college of agriculture conducted a number of farmers' conferences at which professors from the college and experiment station delivered addresses.

MAINE.

Institute director.—A. W. Gilman, commissioner of agriculture, Augusta.

During the year 79 sessions of regular institutes were held with an attendance of 8,267, while 5 independent institutes had 640 in attendance. The total cost was \$2,500, all paid for out of state funds. The college of agriculture furnished 2 speakers. The dates and the programmes are arranged by the commissioner, while the places of the meetings are selected by the county organizations.

MARYLAND.

Institute director.—Wm. L. Amoss, director of farmers' institutes, Benson.

Ninety-seven regular farmers' institutes were held during the year, at which 9,345 were in attendance. There were also institute schools with an attendance of 576 and a special corn train that attracted 1,085 people. The faculty of the college of agriculture and the experiment station staff lectured at as many institutes as their other duties would permit.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Institute director.—J. L. Ellsworth, secretary state board of agriculture, Boston.

Last year \$2,187.69 was used in institute work, 187 sessions being held with 20,756 in attendance, and two demonstration meetings which 400 attended. Twelve lecturers from the college of agriculture and the experiment station addressed meetings during the year.

MICHIGAN.

Institute director.—L. R. Taft, superintendent of farmers' institutes, East Lansing.

Institutes were held in the lower peninsula in all the counties except one. Altogether in both peninsulas there were 1,163 sessions of regular institutes with a total attendance of 147,438. Round-up

institutes were also held covering 12 sessions and with 10,125 as the attendance, and one normal institute lasting three days with 500 in attendance. One railroad special ran eleven days with 65 stops and had 7,485 visitors. Included in the regular institutes above given were 40 women's institutes which often showed a better interest and attendance than the general sessions. The superintendent consults with the officers of the local associations regarding the programmes, dates, and locations of the meetings. The State appropriated \$8,500 for this work, but the actual cost the past year was \$323.62 additional, which was provided for from a balance left over from the year previous. The above includes the salary and expenses of the state superintendent. The college of agriculture and the experiment station cooperated in the work by giving the services of 18 lecturers, and it is estimated that 1,200 local speakers addressed the meetings.

MINNESOTA.

Institute director.—A. D. Wilson, assistant in agriculture and director of farmers' institutes, college of agriculture, St. Paul.

The State appropriated \$18,000 for institute work during the past year which was all expended, and in addition about \$5,000 more was expended which was derived from advertisements in the annual and from a surplus left over from the year previous. This sum includes the salary and expenses of the state director. Twenty-seven state lecturers were employed and the college of agriculture contributed 9 lecturers.

There were held during the year 684 sessions of regular institutes with a total attendance of 109,625. A new feature was the holding of 81 one-session institutes in district schoolhouses which were very satisfactory and at which the attendance was 3,970. Women's institutes were held in five towns, one lady and part of the time two ladies holding one afternoon session each week for four weeks, with good appreciation and attendance. The attendance at a twelve weeks' course of agricultural lectures by members of the college of agriculture at a high school on Monday afternoons was 1,987, and at an eight weeks' course at another high school it was 1,525.

During the past year the institute management has assisted in the organization of 70 farmers' clubs, mostly representing school districts, but in some cases townships. They hold frequent meetings and study and discuss the various problems of importance in that region, such as seed and corn testing, selecting and breeding, co-operative buying and selling, good roads and the like, and they are proving to be of great value to the members. Twelve of the 16 clubs organized in one county a year ago held that year 94 meetings with a total attendance of 4,420, using home talent almost exclusively.

Industrial contests for boys and girls under 18 have been promoted and prizes awarded through the county superintendent of schools for production of corn, wheat, potatoes, vegetables, fruit, and in sewing and cooking. Those winning any of the first six prizes in any class in any county may compete at the state contest. The institute board employed a special man the past year to go from county to county and visit the schools in order to assist the school superintendent in starting this work. He spoke at the schools, and attended teachers' and school officers' meetings, and in ten weeks held 148 meetings with a total attendance of 12,393, mostly boys and girls.

MISSISSIPPI.

Institute director.—E. R. Lloyd, professor of agriculture, college of agriculture, Agricultural College.

The institutes which are under the charge of a department of the college of agriculture are cooperating with the county agricultural high schools as fast as they are established, and are developing short courses in agriculture and dairying.

One hundred and sixty-six sessions of regular institutes were held during the year with an attendance of 25,229, while 17 independent institutes with 5,580 in attendance, 8 sessions of round-up institutes with 1,000 in attendance, and 6 special trains with a total attendance of 12,846 were also held, making a grand total at all the special institutes of 19,426.

The total cost of the institutes was \$3,000, appropriated by the State, but not including the salary of the director.

MISSOURI.

Institute director.—G. B. Ellis, secretary state board of agriculture, Columbia.

During the year there were held 705 sessions of regular institutes with an attendance of 64,800, and 26 sessions of round-up institutes with 7,250 in attendance, besides a number of other special institutes of which no record was kept.

The expense of holding these meetings was \$5,000, all of which the State appropriated, but this does not include the salary of the director and his assistants. A new feature of the work was the conducting of extension short courses.

MONTANA.

Institute director.—F. S. Cooley, superintendent of farmers' institutes, College of Agriculture, Bozeman.

An annual report of the institutes is published and is a departure from the beaten track in that it treats of but one subject each year, thus giving an exhaustive supply of information regarding that particular phase of agriculture. As a different subject is dealt with

each year, in a few years there will be available a valuable and concise library of information on the agriculture of the State.

The state appropriation of \$7,500 was expended for institute work, including the salary and expenses of the director. There were held 126 sessions of regular institutes with an attendance of 10,831, and 52 lectures in high schools to 9,185 pupils and friends, besides a dairy train with 1,000 in attendance. The college of agriculture and the experiment station furnished 14 lecturers, while 8 state lecturers and 9 local speakers were used. Dry-land farming was discussed at nearly all meetings, and dry-farming demonstrations are being introduced, as well as movable schools of home making and high-school lecture courses.

NEBRASKA.

Institute director.—Val Keyser, superintendent of farmers' institutes, College of Agriculture, Lincoln.

A conference of local institute managers was held at one of the meetings of organized agriculture, at which questions pertaining to methods of conducting institutes were discussed. During the past year 500 sessions of regular institutes were held with a total attendance of 86,623, and two institute schools in agriculture and domestic science with 530, besides 6 special institutes, the attendance at which was not reported, and organized agriculture, which takes the place of a round-up institute, the attendance of which was also not reported. Five boys' and girls' sessions were held, and women's auxiliaries were held in connection with nearly all regular institutes. The institutes cost \$14,795.84, of which amount the State appropriated \$10,000, the university \$652.98, and counties and local institutes \$4,142.86.

NEVADA.

Institute director.—J. E. Stubbs, president of the university of Nevada, and director of the experiment station, Reno.

No farmers' institutes were held.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Institute director.—N. J. Bachelder, secretary state board of agriculture, Concord.

Twenty-four sessions of regular institutes with an attendance of 1,800 and 3 round-up sessions with 500 in attendance were held during the past year. There were also several field meetings with an attendance of 4,500. The college of agriculture provided 6 lecturers, while 6 state lecturers and 12 local speakers were employed. The State appropriated \$1,200 for institute work, but only half of this amount was expended.

NEW JERSEY.

Institute director.—Franklin Dye, secretary state board of agriculture, Trenton.

Approximately \$3,000 was expended for institute work last season. This enabled the holding of 128 sessions of regular institutes, at which 10,425 attended, and 7 sessions of round-up institutes, at which the attendance was 2,200. A railroad instruction train was run three days, stopping at 19 places, with 1,500 in attendance. Five members of the faculty of the college of agriculture and 2 of the staff of the experiment station lectured before some of the meetings.

NEW MEXICO.

Institute director.—J. D. Tinsley, professor of physics, college of agriculture, Agricultural College.

The Territory made no appropriation for farmers' institute work, but the college of agriculture, through its superintendent of institutes and with the help of two members of the experiment-station staff, held 50 sessions with an attendance of 1,696, at a cost of \$1,700, including salaries and expenses.

NEW YORK.

Institute director.—R. A. Pearson, commissioner of agriculture, Albany.

The institutes the past year covered all but 5 counties, which were either in the Adirondack Mountains or occupied by New York City and its environs. The college of agriculture and experiment station provided about 15 lecturers, one man being out all the time and giving two lectures each day. There were some 45 state lecturers in addition and about 150 local speakers were used. At most institutes the subject of rural schools was discussed.

The State appropriated \$25,000 for farmers' institute work during the year just closed, but the actual cost of the institutes was about \$28,000, not including the salary and expenses of the director. During the year 1,054 sessions of regular institutes were held, with an attendance of 155,602, besides 11 cooperative institutes which were held under the auspices of granges, poultry shows, agricultural schools, and the like, and at which the attendance was 16,517. One normal institute was held at which the lecturers were given the results of the latest information gathered by the college and experiment station.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Institute director.—T. B. Parker, director of farmers' institutes, department of agriculture, Raleigh.

During the year 514 sessions of regular institutes were held with 46,500 in attendance, and 18 sessions of round-up institutes with an

attendance of 1,000. The college of agriculture and the experiment station supplied 7 lecturers, and the total cost of the institutes was \$6,400, paid from the treasury of the state board of agriculture.

NORTH DAKOTA.

Institute director.—T. A. Hoverstad, superintendent of farmers' institutes, Fargo.

The institutes held during the year cost \$9,835.22, which represents the \$6,000 annually appropriated for this work and a surplus left over from the year previous. There were held 281 sessions of regular institutes with an attendance of 46,538, and a number of special institutes of which no record was kept. Leguminous crops were discussed at all the meetings. The college of agriculture and the experiment station each kept one speaker in the field all the time, and 3 state speakers were employed.

OHIO.

Institute director.—A. P. Sandles, secretary department of agriculture, Columbus.

No lecturers were used from the faculty of the college of agriculture nor from the staff of the experiment station, but the state lecturers numbered 52 and about 2,000 local speakers were used. During the year 4 regular institutes were held in every county in the State, making in all 1,760 sessions, and the interest was so intense that 400,000 people attended these meetings. There were also held 100 independent institutes with an attendance of 300,000, and 5 sessions of round-up institutes with 500 in attendance. No record was kept of the corn specials, fruit trains, corn schools, and orchard schools.

The State appropriated \$22,000 for the institute work, all of which was expended but did not include the salary and expenses of the director.

OKLAHOMA.

Institute director.—T. M. Jeffords, conductor of institutes, Elgin.

Corn growing was discussed at all the institutes. The college of agriculture furnished 8 lecturers; there were 10 on the state force and about 50 local speakers used. The total cost of the institutes for the year was \$4,500, which enabled the holding of 206 sessions of regular institutes with an attendance of 11,953, and 5 independent institutes with 672 in attendance.

OREGON.

Institute director.—James Withycombe, director of the experiment station, Corvallis.

The State appropriated \$2,500 for the institute work, and \$2,946.65 was expended, which included the salary and expenses of the director.

The experiment station supplied 4 lecturers and the State 2, while usually 2 local speakers were obtained at each meeting. There were in all 79 sessions of regular institutes with an attendance of 16,930, and 2 demonstration train institutes with a total of 40,730 people in attendance. The demonstration trains were reported to have been remarkably successful in point of interest and attendance. They were really traveling schools of agriculture, consisting of 4 coaches filled with demonstration material from the departments of agronomy, horticulture, animal husbandry, dairying, entomology, and poultry.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Institute director.—A. L. Martin, deputy secretary of agriculture, Harrisburg.

All the state institutes last year discussed horticulture, poultry, dairying, and the betterment of country home conditions. The movable institute school work was made more perfect. While no regular women's institutes were held, a session for women was held at each of the 172 two-day institutes which constituted the majority of the institutes, for only 24 one-day and 7 three-day institutes were held. In all there were 982 sessions of regular institutes, and the attendance was 156,652. There were also 10 independent institutes with 29,160 in attendance, and 9 sessions of round-up institutes with an attendance of 1,980. The college of agriculture and the experiment station helped in the work by sending in all 9 lecturers. The total cost of the institute work during the year was \$20,000, all appropriated by the State. The places at which institutes are to be held and the programmes are arranged by the local committee, while the state director arranges the dates.

PORTO RICO.

Institute director.—D. W. May, special agent in charge of Porto Rico Experiment Station, Mayaguez.

There is no special appropriation for institute work in Porto Rico, but the director of the agricultural experiment station and 6 members of his staff spent ten days in institute work the past year, holding 12 sessions with a total attendance of 700, and at an expense of \$400, which was divided equally between the experiment station and some planters. A planters' picnic was held, which 350 people attended, but it was largely social.

RHODE ISLAND.

Institute director.—J. J. Dunn, secretary state board of agriculture, Providence.

During the past year there were held 12 sessions of regular institutes with an attendance of 1,400, and also 6 lectures on horticulture in cooperation with the college of agriculture, at which there were 1,000 in attendance. The regular institutes cost \$187.29, and the horticultural lectures cost the college \$150 and the state board \$150.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Institute director.—D. N. Barrow, professor of agriculture, Clemson College.

With an appropriation of \$755 from the State for institute work, but with an expenditure of only \$516.26, the director of the experiment station, with the assistance of 2 members of his staff and 2 lecturers from the college of agriculture, succeeded in holding 20 sessions of farmers' institutes during the year with a total attendance of 5,848.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

Institute director.—A. E. Chamberlain, superintendent of farmers' institutes, Brookings.

Seed grain, dairying, and beef production were subjects discussed at all the institutes the past year. The college of agriculture furnished 2 and the experiment station 10 lecturers, while 9 state lecturers were employed. The state appropriation of \$7,000 was all expended with the exception of \$5. There were held 325 sessions of regular institutes, which 44,357 people attended, besides 15 independent institutes with an attendance of 900, and seed trains running thirteen days and stopping at 92 towns which attracted 7,823 people.

TENNESSEE.

Institute director.—John Thompson, commissioner of agriculture, Nashville.

Growing live stock was a subject discussed at all regular farmers' institute meetings last year, of which there were 64 sessions with an attendance of 55,300. There were also 18 independent institutes, the attendance at which was not recorded, and 33 sessions of round-up institutes with 6,000 in attendance. A railroad special which ran 100 miles stopping at 13 towns was visited by 2,000 people. The total cost of the institutes was \$3,264, not including the salary and expenses of the director, which would add \$600 to the cost. The state appropriation for the work was \$5,000. Six members of the agricultural experiment station staff lectured, and 6 state lecturers were employed.

TEXAS.

Institute director.—E. R. Kone, commissioner of agriculture, Austin.

The law of 1907 creating the state department of agriculture made it the duty of the commissioner to organize farmers' institutes, but made no special appropriation for their maintenance. The legislature of 1909 appropriated \$5,000 annually for the fiscal years ending September 1, 1910 and 1911. This is the first appropriation for institute work in Texas, and a director of farmers' institutes will be appointed with headquarters at Austin, and precinct, county, and state organization will be undertaken.

The commissioner of agriculture has, however, done considerable farmers' institute work, using \$2,116 from some of the funds not

needed for other purposes, and as a result held 199 sessions of regular institutes last year with a total attendance of 11,049. Besides this, 6 institute picnics were held, attended by 10,000 people, some demonstration work was done, and exhibits made of farm products.

UTAH.

Institute director.—L. A. Merrill, superintendent of agricultural extension work of the college of agriculture and director of Utah state farmers' institutes, Salt Lake City.

Dairying and horticulture were discussed at all regular farmers' institute meetings held during the year, of which there were 217 sessions, with a total attendance of 18,089. Five local speakers addressed meetings, but, aside from this assistance, the work was all done by the director of institutes and the faculty of the college of agriculture and the members of the experiment station staff, at a cost of \$2,825.11, the state appropriation being \$1,500, the college supplying the deficiency.

VERMONT.

Institute director.—O. L. Martin, commissioner of agriculture, Plainfield.

With two state speakers and one lecturer from the experiment station for only one day the commissioner of agriculture held 12 sessions of regular institutes, with approximately 600 in attendance, and cooperated with the college of agriculture in conducting the farmers' week, at which 168 were registered, the total expenses being approximately \$350.

VIRGINIA.

Institute director.—G. W. Koerner, commissioner of agriculture, Richmond.

About \$2,000 was used in institute work during the year, enabling the holding of about one hundred and thirty days of institutes, with an attendance of 25,000. A steamboat was equipped, and with it a series of institutes were conducted along the Rappahannock River among the truck gardeners and other agricultural people in the vicinity.

The Virginia State Farmers' Institute is an organization established five years ago. It meets once each year for a three days' conference, with an elaborate programme, and has approximately 1,300 members. The proceedings of the fifth annual session, held at Richmond, August 4, 5, and 6, 1908, has been published and contains 282 pages. The organization is now to be incorporated.

WASHINGTON.

Institute director.—R. W. Thatcher, director agricultural experiment station, Pullman.

The farmers' institute work is in charge of the extension department of the college of agriculture, and practically all its appropria-

tion of \$5,000 was expended for institute work. There were 238 sessions of regular institutes held, with an attendance of 15,465. Three sessions of round-up institutes had an attendance of 116, and the 6 railroad specials made 103 stops, with a total of 28,990 in attendance. The grange is cooperated with and 4 sessions were addressed by the institute speakers, at which the attendance was 591. The college of agriculture and the experiment station contributed 11 lecturers, and there were 23 state lecturers and numerous local speakers to help in the work.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Institute director.—J. B. Garvin, secretary board of agriculture, Charleston.

With an expenditure of \$9,249.29 the board of agriculture held 356 sessions of regular institutes during the year, at which the attendance was 19,424, and 28 independent institutes, the attendance of which was not recorded. A special field man was employed by the year whose duty it was to go among the farmers and hold special meetings wherever and whenever he could get a few of them together. This must have resulted in a vast amount of good for the agricultural interests of the State, and it is along a line of work which has been in successful operation in many foreign countries for a number of years, and which can profitably be developed in this country.

WISCONSIN.

Institute director.—G. B. McKerrow, superintendent of farmers' institutes, Madison.

Bovine tuberculosis was discussed at all the general institutes during the year. About 50 state lecturers were in the employ of the institute besides some 20 local speakers and 7 or 8 lecturers from the college of agriculture and the experiment station at odd times. Seven hundred and five regular institute sessions were held and the total attendance was 93,090, and the cost nearly \$20,000, including the printing of bulletins.

WYOMING.

Institute director.—J. D. Towar, director of the experiment station, Laramie.

In spite of the fact that the grazing of cattle and sheep is still the predominant form of agriculture in Wyoming and small farms are relatively few, the institutes are doing good work and are developing from year to year. The local officers are always consulted regarding the arrangement of the meetings, and in some counties they pay the local expenses of holding the institutes. Seventy-one sessions of regular institutes were held, with 4,403 in attendance, and 5 women's institutes were also held. The expenditure from the state appropriation was \$933.18, and the college of agriculture and the experiment station furnished the director and 8 lecturers, while 12 were employed from the State at large.

STATISTICS OF FARMERS' INSTITUTES, 1909.

Number of institutes held and the approximate attendance during the year ended June 30, 1909.

State or Territory.	Number of one-day institutes.	Number of two-day institutes.	Number of three or more day institutes.	Total.	Total number of sessions.	Total attendance at sessions.	Average per session.
Alabama.....	22	2	.....	24	42	4,240	101
Alaska ^a.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Arizona.....	34	.....	.....	34	34	1,862	55
Arkansas.....	67	.....	3	70	150	44,161	294
California.....	60	26	7	93	250	28,294	113
Colorado.....	66	.....	4	70	130	22,560	173
Connecticut.....	24	1	.....	25	53	.....	.....
Delaware.....	18	5	.....	23	70	9,210	132
Florida.....	25	4	.....	29	56	5,576	100
Georgia.....	24	2	.....	26	56	4,480	80
Hawaii ^a.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Idaho.....	34	6	3	43	90	8,560	95
Illinois.....	.....	50	61	111	659	82,855	125
Indiana.....	184	164	3	351	1,162	215,211	185
Iowa.....	.....	69	14	83	415	103,750	250
Kansas.....	136	76	.....	212	576	37,191	64
Kentucky.....	.....	119	.....	119	404	21,538	46
Louisiana ^b.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Maine.....	37	1	.....	38	79	8,267	104
Maryland.....	46	10	.....	56	97	9,345	96
Massachusetts.....	136	.....	.....	136	187	20,756	111
Michigan.....	329	72	3	404	1,163	147,438	127
Minnesota.....	322	8	2	332	684	109,625	160
Mississippi.....	114	2	2	118	166	25,229	152
Missouri.....	149	100	11	260	705	64,800	92
Montana.....	70	.....	2	72	178	20,016	112
Nebraska.....	35	109	.....	144	500	86,623	173
Nevada ^b.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Hampshire.....	12	.....	.....	12	24	1,800	75
New Jersey.....	33	5	.....	38	128	10,425	81
New Mexico.....	34	2	1	37	50	1,696	34
New York.....	162	110	4	276	1,054	172,119	164
North Carolina.....	233	.....	1	234	514	46,500	90
North Dakota.....	96	10	1	107	281	46,538	165
Ohio.....	.....	352	.....	352	1,760	400,000	227
Oklahoma.....	38	34	.....	72	206	11,953	58
Oregon.....	31	3	1	35	79	16,930	214
Pennsylvania.....	24	172	7	203	982	156,652	159
Porto Rico.....	10	.....	.....	10	12	700	58
Rhode Island.....	9	1	.....	10	12	1,400	116
South Carolina.....	10	.....	.....	10	20	5,848	292
South Dakota.....	24	62	2	88	325	44,357	103
Tennessee.....	31	.....	9	40	64	55,300	864
Texas.....	79	8	.....	87	199	11,049	55
Utah.....	41	11	1	53	217	18,089	83
Vermont.....	5	.....	.....	5	12	600	50
Virginia.....	130	.....	.....	130	260	25,000	96
Washington.....	67	17	.....	84	238	15,465	65
West Virginia.....	18	80	.....	98	356	19,424	54
Wisconsin.....	16	123	1	140	705	93,090	132
Wyoming.....	11	6	3	20	71	4,403	62
Total.....	3,046	1,822	146	5,014	15,535	2,240,925	144

^a No report.

^b No institutes held.

Financial statistics of the farmers' institutes for the year ended June 30, 1909.

State or Territory.	Funds appropriated.		Cost.		Appropriation for the season of 1909-10.
	State.	College and other funds.	Total cost.	Cost per session.	
Alabama.....	\$600.00	\$800.00	\$1,400.00	\$33.33	\$600.00
Alaska ^a					
Arizona.....	123.95		123.95	3.65	1,100.00
Arkansas.....	2,135.60	2,500.00	4,635.60	30.90	4,000.00
California.....	6,000.00	1,000.00	7,000.00	28.00	10,000.00
Colorado.....	5,000.00	4,242.42	9,242.42	71.10	5,000.00
Connecticut.....	257.67	374.30	631.97	11.92	(^a)
Delaware.....	600.00	450.00	1,050.00	15.00	750.00
Florida.....	2,500.00		2,000.00	35.71	7,500.00
Georgia.....	2,500.00	4,500.00	7,000.00	125.00	2,500.00
Hawaii ^a					
Idaho.....	1,000.00		(^a)	(^a)	2,000.00
Illinois.....	15,000.00	4,043.75	19,043.75	28.90	20,000.00
Indiana.....	10,000.00	10,000.00	19,000.00	16.34	10,000.00
Iowa.....	6,030.51	4,020.07	10,050.58	24.21	(^a)
Kansas.....	6,000.00	2,200.00	8,200.00	14.24	25,000.00
Kentucky.....	10,607.44		10,607.44	22.86	(^a)
Louisiana ^c					
Maine.....	2,500.00	2,000.00	4,500.00	56.96	5,000.00
Maryland.....	6,000.00		6,000.00	61.85	6,000.00
Massachusetts.....	4,000.00		2,187.69	11.70	4,000.00
Michigan.....	8,500.00	323.62	8,823.62	7.58	8,500.00
Minnesota.....	18,000.00	5,560.23	22,800.00	33.33	18,000.00
Mississippi.....	3,000.00	2,000.00	5,000.00	30.12	3,000.00
Missouri.....	5,000.00	3,500.00	(^a)	(^a)	5,000.00
Montana.....	7,500.00		7,500.00	42.13	8,000.00
Nebraska.....	10,000.00	4,795.84	14,795.84	29.59	10,000.00
Nevada ^c					
New Hampshire.....	1,200.00		600.00	25.00	1,500.00
New Jersey.....	3,000.00		3,000.00	23.43	(^a)
New Mexico.....		1,800.00	1,700.00	34.00	(^a)
New York.....	25,000.00	3,000.00	28,000.00	26.56	31,000.00
North Carolina.....	6,400.00		6,400.00	12.45	(^a)
North Dakota.....	6,000.00	3,835.22	9,835.22	35.00	6,000.00
Ohio.....	22,000.00		23,000.00	13.07	23,000.00
Oklahoma.....	3,000.00	1,800.00	4,500.00	21.84	6,000.00
Oregon.....	2,500.00	500.00	2,946.65	37.80	2,500.00
Pennsylvania.....	20,000.00	3,000.00	23,000.00	23.42	25,500.00
Porto Rico.....		400.00	400.00	33.33	(^a)
Rhode Island.....	243.64	243.65	487.29	40.61	(^a)
South Carolina.....	755.00		516.26	25.81	1,000.00
South Dakota.....	7,000.00		6,995.00	21.52	10,000.00
Tennessee.....	5,000.00		3,864.00	60.37	5,000.00
Texas.....	2,116.00		2,116.00	10.63	5,000.00
Utah.....	1,500.00	1,325.11	2,825.11	13.01	5,000.00
Vermont.....	1,000.00		1,000.00	83.33	1,000.00
Virginia.....	2,000.00		(^a)	(^a)	(^a)
Washington.....	5,000.00		5,000.00	21.00	5,000.00
West Virginia.....	9,249.29		9,249.29	25.98	(^a)
Wisconsin.....	20,000.00		20,000.00	28.36	20,000.00
Wyoming.....	1,000.00	633.18	1,633.18	23.00	1,000.00
Total.....	276,819.10	68,847.39	328,660.86	21.15	304,450.00

^a No report.^b Not including the salary of the director.^c No institutes held.

Comparative statement of farmers' institutes.

State or Territory.	Appropriations.			Number of sessions.		Number of institutes.			Attendance.		
	1906-7	1907-8	1908-9	1907-8	1908-9	1906-7	1907-8	1908-9	1906-7	1907-8	1908-9
Alabama.....	\$600.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,400.00	73	42	24	40	24	2,857	8,844	4,240
Alaska ^a											
Arizona.....	300.00	1,745.00	123.95	56	34	20	56	34	1,000	2,673	1,862
Arkansas.....		1,500.00	4,635.60	64	150	40	56	70	3,000	5,596	44,161
California.....	6,000.00	8,000.00	7,000.00	294	250	84	88	93	20,470	27,912	28,294
Colorado.....	5,003.19	7,724.46	9,242.42	240	130	62	126	70	16,960	38,930	22,560
Connecticut.....	2,435.57	1,700.00	631.97	53	53	38	25	25	9,522	3,700	(a)
Delaware.....	700.00	725.00	1,050.00	52	70	12	19	23	9,210	4,905	9,210
Florida.....	7.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	29	56	1	26	29	30	3,316	5,576
Georgia.....	2,500.00	4,000.00	7,000.00	84	56	(a)	40	26	(b)	12,000	4,480
Hawaii.....	62.05	74.49	(a)	4	(a)	3	4	(a)	500	150	(a)
Idaho.....	142.08	1,000.00	1,000.00	66	90	1	12	43	550	5,650	8,560
Illinois.....	28,978.96	29,540.00	19,043.75	627	659	111	108	111	333,350	122,523	82,855
Indiana.....	12,700.00	18,000.00	20,000.00	1,112	1,162	281	321	351	177,441	195,912	215,211
Iowa.....	7,425.00	7,954.98	10,050.58	400	415	85	75	83	51,000	75,000	103,750
Kansas.....	4,064.00	6,495.51	8,200.00	473	576	135	176	212	20,200	33,684	37,191
Kentucky.....	13,000.00	8,982.85	10,607.44	514	464	123	132	119	26,836	21,690	21,538
Louisiana.....	2,000.00	2,000.00	(b)	(b)	(b)	10	.....	(b)	(a)	(b)	(b)
Maine.....	5,000.00	3,000.00	4,500.00	97	79	33	50	38	4,771	14,143	8,267
Maryland.....	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	117	97	23	41	56	9,833	8,903	9,345
Massach'tts.....	2,750.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	156	187	126	127	136	19,692	18,412	20,756
Michigan.....	15,500.00	8,500.00	8,823.62	969	1,163	329	326	404	115,136	121,654	147,438
Minnesota.....	20,665.00	20,454.50	23,560.23	547	684	139	272	332	67,063	92,091	109,625
Mississippi.....	3,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	274	166	148	129	118	17,945	28,910	25,229
Missouri.....	5,000.00	5,000.00	8,500.00	875	705	212	250	260	46,511	40,000	64,800
Montana.....	5,000.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	156	178	70	72	72	7,541	12,293	20,016
Nebraska.....	8,684.04	13,617.68	14,795.84	602	500	136	175	144	65,419	93,824	86,623
Nevada ^b											
N. Hampsh'e.....	1,600.00	1,000.00	1,200.00	32	24	15	16	12	3,500	2,500	1,800
New Jersey.....	3,060.98	2,500.00	3,000.00	120	128	44	37	38	10,399	10,154	10,425
New Mexico.....	1,900.00	1,425.00	1,800.00	68	50	24	50	37	970	3,685	1,696
New York.....	20,000.00	25,000.00	28,000.00	1,471	1,054	211	307	276	105,196	149,418	172,119
N. Carolina.....	6,500.00	7,500.00	6,400.00	423	514	124	194	234	31,980	52,978	46,500
N. Dakota.....	6,000.00	6,721.65	9,835.22	233	281	25	90	107	9,709	38,000	46,538
Ohio.....	22,000.00	23,986.15	22,000.00	1,490	1,760	299	298	352	92,303	461,515	400,000
Oklahoma.....	550.00	1,285.29	4,800.00	.....	206	40	(b)	72	6,715	(b)	11,953
Oregon.....	3,000.00	2,500.00	3,000.00	79	79	58	32	35	22,200	7,500	16,930
Pennsylv'a.....	20,500.00	23,000.00	23,000.00	989	982	394	217	203	147,895	145,353	156,652
Porto Rico.....	(b)	(b)	400.00	(b)	12	(b)	(b)	10	(b)	(b)	700
Rhode Isl'd.....	75.00	125.00	487.29	16	12	7	15	10	600	1,800	1,400
S. Carolina.....	3,000.00	2,000.00	755.00	41	20	73	40	10	13,219	13,392	5,848
S. Dakota.....	5,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	290	325	71	86	88	26,000	43,560	44,357
Tennessee.....	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	186	64	48	84	40	10,400	18,915	55,300
Texas.....	(b)	382.25	2,116.00	.....	199	(b)	36	87	(b)	(b)	11,049
Utah.....	(a)	3,485.32	2,825.11	288	217	(a)	25	53	(a)	26,926	18,089
Vermont.....	5,000.00	5,000.00	1,000.00	56	12	34	28	5	7,288	5,160	600
Virginia.....	c 2,500.00	(a)	2,000.00	(a)	260	c 7	(a)	130	c 310	(a)	25,000
Washington.....	(a)	5,000.00	5,000.00	240	238	24	78	84	5,250	15,346	15,465
W. Virginia.....	7,476.71	5,644.41	9,249.29	365	356	110	112	98	24,825	16,748	19,424
Wisconsin.....	12,771.09	20,000.00	20,000.00	567	705	61	141	140	49,989	89,244	93,090
Wyoming.....	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,633.18	46	71	12	11	20	1,292	3,359	4,403
Total.....	284,450.67	325,569.54	345,666.49	14,934	15,535	3,927	4,643	5,014	1,596,877	2,098,268	2,240,925

^a No report.^b No institutes.^c Report for two districts only.

Number of lecturers employed by the state directors of farmers' institutes during the year ended June 30, 1909.

State or Territory.	Total number of lecturers on the state force.	Number of members of agricultural college and experiment station staffs engaged in institute work.	Number of days contributed to institute work by the agricultural college and experiment station staff.	Total number of days of institutes held during the year.	Reports of proceedings.	
					Published.	Number of copies.
Alabama.....	15	12	.....	26	No.....	.....
Alaska ^a.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Arizona.....	4	4	34	34	No.....	.....
Arkansas.....	18	23	250	76	No.....	.....
California.....	30	10	108	133	Yes.....	12,500
Colorado.....	21	37	.....	78	No.....	.....
Connecticut.....	35	8	20	26	Yes.....	600
Delaware.....	15	4	23	28	No.....	.....
Florida.....	15	7	.....	33	No.....	.....
Georgia.....	19	12	58	28	Yes.....	2,000
Hawaii.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Idaho.....	13	7	45	55	No.....	.....
Illinois.....	77	29	110	283	Yes.....	50,000
Indiana.....	55	11	59	521	No.....	.....
Iowa.....	14	11	.....	180	.....	.....
Kansas.....	36	20	276	288	No.....	.....
Kentucky.....	32	5	.....	238	Yes.....	25,000
Louisiana ^b	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Maine.....	18	2	.....	39	Yes.....	6,000
Maryland.....	19	.....	.....	66	.....	.....
Massachusetts.....	63	12	20	136	No.....	.....
Michigan.....	51	18	115	482	Yes.....	12,000
Minnesota.....	26	9	15	344	Yes.....	45,000
Mississippi.....	22	14	294	124	Yes.....	10,000
Missouri.....	29	13	.....	382	Yes.....	10,000
Montana.....	19	14	134	76	Yes.....	7,000
Nebraska.....	26	32	142	253	Yes.....	3,000
Nevada ^b	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Hampshire.....	17	6	12	12	Yes.....	1,500
New Jersey.....	10	6	77	43	Yes.....	6,000
New Mexico.....	8	2	15	41	No.....	.....
New York.....	68	16	128	394	Yes.....	.....
North Carolina.....	30	7	59	236	Yes.....	35,000
North Dakota.....	9	1	185	119	Yes.....	15,000
Ohio.....	51	.....	.....	704	Yes.....	25,000
Oklahoma.....	22	8	120	106	No.....	.....
Oregon.....	11	4	150	40	No.....	.....
Pennsylvania.....	68	9	115	389	Yes.....	8,000
Porto Rico.....	.....	6	60	10	No.....	.....
Rhode Island.....	15	9	.....	11	Yes.....	2,000
South Carolina.....	5	4	14	10	.....	.....
South Dakota.....	.....	12	60	166	No.....	.....
Tennessee.....	10	6	40	58	No.....	.....
Texas.....	.....	5	65	95	No.....	.....
Utah.....	15	21	385	66	Yes.....	10,000
Vermont.....	.....	1	1	5	Yes.....	.....
Virginia.....	9	.....	.....	130	.....	.....
Washington.....	30	11	181	101	No.....	.....
West Virginia.....	19	3	21	178	Yes.....	300
Wisconsin.....	26	.....	.....	265	Yes.....	60,000
Wyoming.....	14	8	32	No.....
Total.....	1,130	459	3,381	7,134	345,900

^a No report.

^b No institutes held.

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